

NEWSLETTER no.4

Routes towards Sustainability at the Primer Congreso Internacional sobre *Sustentabilidad en los Hábitats*, Guadalajara, Mexico, 19-20 September 2016

On Monday the 19th and Tuesday the 20th the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente, ITESO, also known as Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara, hosted the 1st International Conference on Sustainability of Habitats. Routes towards Sustainability was represented by scholars from: Università degli Studi di Ferrara; Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná – PUCPR; Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile – PUC; South China University of Technology – SCUT. Each of them contributed with keynote speeches, papers and participation to panels.

Sustainability of Habitats was investigated with a focus on climate change, resilience, governance, urban planning, heritage management, infrastructure and natural resources management.

The conference provided ample opportunity for the Routes members to interact with delegates from various universities in Latin America and Europe. Colleagues from the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Seccional Medellín, Colombia; Universidad del País Vasco, Spain; Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia; Università della Calabria, Italy have declared their interest in joining the Network.

ITESO - Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara – A New Partner of Routes

ITESO - Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara – has officially become a new member of Routes towards Sustainability after the agreement was signed by the Rector of ITESO, José Morales Orozco, SJ, and the coordinators of the Network, Prof. Paola Spinozzi and Prof. Gianfranco Franz. The ceremony was held at the university Campus of ITESO on Thursday the 22nd of September. Prof. Franz delivered a presentation of the history, achievements and projects of the Network. Rector Orozco firstly pointed out that the aim of sustainability ought to be pursued by universities worldwide. Secondly he offered to strengthen collaborations between the Network and other universities with which he has worked throughout the years. The Sustainable Campus has been defined as a major objective.



The Rector José Morales Orozco signing the Routes agreement



The General Meeting of Routes towards Sustainability in Guadalajara

In the afternoon of Thursday the 22nd the Fourth General Meeting of Routes towards Sustainability was held at Casa Clavigero, the house and studio of architect Luis Barragán (Guadalajara, 9 March 1902 – Mexico City, 22 November 1988). The building, restored and now owned by ITESO, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2004. The General Meeting was attended by members of Routes as well as by delegates from the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Seccional Medellín, and Università della Calabria.

The focus was on the next General Symposium, to be held at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile - PUC in Santiago and Villarrica in March 2018.

Prof. Antonio Hargreaves, Director of Campus Villarrica, talked about the premises of the new Interdisciplinary Centre for Sustainability which is currently being built in Villarrica and will be launched at the opening ceremony of the General Symposium.

Prof. André Luiz Braga from the Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná - PUCPR talked about the state of the art of the digital volume on *Cidades, Saude e Bem-estar – Cities, Health and Wellbeing*, which collects the papers delivered at the Annual Symposium in Curitiba in 2015.

Prof. Paola Spinozzi presented the state of the art of *Cultures of Sustainability and Wellbeing. Theories, Histories and Policies*, which collects the papers presented at the Annual Symposium in Ferrara in 2014. The volume, edited by Paola Spinozzi and Massimiliano Mazzanti, will be published in 2017 by Routledge in the series entitled Studies in Culture and Sustainable Development. Prof. Spinozzi also presented a research project on Multiple Footprints, which will be adopted as the conceptual framework for the 2018 Symposium. The guidelines of the project will be circulated among all partner universities in order to share methods and ideas for a position paper to be produced by the first half of 2017.

The General Meeting also provided the opportunity to discuss a project for an international, interdisciplinary PhD course on the communication of sustainability. In 2016 the pilot intensive programme on *Communicating Sustainability. Strategies, Policies and Models of Behaviour* was held at the University Institute for Higher Studies - IUSS in Ferrara. The programme was intended for students attending PhD courses at UniFe. The teaching staff was formed by: professors from various UniFe departments; Prof. Fabio T. Souza from PUCPR; Prof.



Nguyen Thi Minh Tien from the Faculty of International Studies of the University of Hanoi - HANU, Vietnam.

Finally, it was decided that the activities of Routes in 2017 will include seminars and workshops to be held in Latin American, Europe and Asia.

Extending partnerships

After its foundation, Routes has extended its network thanks to:

Universiteit Leiden (NL)
Univerzity Karlovy v Praze (CH)
Western Sydney University (AU)
University of Hanoi (VN)
ITESO - Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara (MX)
Prospective partners are:
Universidade Estadual de Campinas (BR)
Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Secc. Medellín (CO)
Universidad del País Vasco (ES)
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Cali (CO)
Università della Calabria (IT)